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THE CANADIAN ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

From Le Negociant Canadien.

We referred at some length in our last number to the necessity of an independent telegraph line between Canada and Europe. We then stated that under present arrangements, the people of Canada had no right to land a wire on Newfoundland, or its dependency of Labrador, that the whole business of telegraphy between Europe and this Continent, was now controlled by a monopoly in the United States, and that Canada was dependent, for all European intelligence, on telegraphic lines controlled by foreigners.

We alluded to the efforts that have been made by enterprising Canadians, with parties in Europe, to change this state of things, by the construction of a line from the Northern part of Scotland to the Faroe Islands, thence to Iceland, thence to Greenland, or Blanc Sablon, in the Straits of Belle Isle, and thence to Gaspe, Quebec and Montreal

We before stated that there are now three telegraphic cables laid across the Atlantic. The Anglo-American have two connecting with Newfoundland, while there is another from France to the Island of St Pierre, and that all three are now merged into one company and controlled by one Board of Directors.

A company has lately been organized in England to lay down a cable from Milford or Southampton to Bermuda, to connect with St Thomas, and the other West India Islands and New York, by direct lines, and it is probable that a line may be extended from Bermuda to Halifax This company is called the "Great Western" Its capital stock is $6 500 000 *and the cable for this line is now being manufactured, and will be laid within the next two years.*

The Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagan, who possess the sole right to lay down wires in the Danish Islands, and who are desirous of connecting their telegraph lines with Canada, have an agreement with the Great Western Company for mutual business This Great Northern Company is, we understand, the most successful telegraphic organization in Europe. They have energetically and successfully extended their lines not only throughout the North of Europe, but also to China and Japan. It has been aided by the Governments of Russia, Sweden and Denmark, and they have acquired the almost exclusive possession of telegraphic traffic between Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden, Russia, and by means of the Russian land lines across Siberia with China and Japan It is this powerful organization, which has taken an active interest in promoting the Southern Atlantic line to Bermuda and New York, but who are satisfied that one line will be insufficient to compete with the three Anglo-American lines, and therefore desire a connection in a direct line by the St Lawrence to Canada, and the Pacific.

It is possible that from motives of economy, the line may not touch at Greenland, or the Faroe Islands. In this case there would only be two immediate stations between Scotland and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, say at Iceland and Blanc Sablon in the Straits of Belle Isle, or at Gaspe. This will however, be the shortest of all the existing lines, as well as of all the contemplated lines. The distance from Iceland to Blanc Sablon, is 1321 miles, while the cable of 1865, from Valentia in Ireland, to Newfoundland, is 1896 miles; cable of 1866. 1,852 miles; French cable to St. Pierre, 2 584 miles.

This is one of those public and national measures which deserves the support of the people and government of Canada, and there should be no hesitation in granting every assistance that may be in their power.

The Danish Government, during this year ordered a Danish man-of war, "The Fylla," to examine the proposed landing places, and to take the necessary soundings.

The business of telegraphy between the Continent of America and Europe is constantly on the increase, and there ought to be the utmost confidence in the success of this Canadian line, extended as it will be to British Columbia and thence to China, Japan and Siberia, where it shall meet and connect with the lines of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, giving every guarntee of uninterupted telegraph communication from its being connected with such strong organizations as the Great Western and the Great Northern Companies.

The placing of a station at Blanc Sablon in the Straits of Belleisle is of great importance for the navigation of the St Lawrence as well as for the fisheries. This must be evident to all, and is too plain for any argument. The line along the southern coast of the St Lawrence from Gaspe to Quebec, &c, will also prove highly beneficial for the navigation of the Lower St Lawrence especially in cases of shipwreck in that region, and in the vicinty of Point de Monts, which Point may eventally be connected with the south shore by means of a submarine line across the St Lawrence

The proposed line will also secure to the Dominion prompt and cheap telegraphic communication with Europe, and the world, not only in quiet ordinary times, but also in times of war or of commercial and political disturbances, when such a direct and independent communication would be of immeasurable importance These advantages are of such magnitude, and the line is of such importance to the future development of the Dominion, that we again repeat that every effort should be made to secure the construction of the proposed Canadian ocean telegraph.

It will be the means of bringing Canada into frequent and intimate relations with the countries of the North of Europe such as Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the North of Germany and Russia, and be of great assistance in the effort we are now making to induce emigration from these countries to Canada It will unavoidably lead to the extension of the inland telegraph system across the continent to British Columbia, and thence to China, Japan and Russia, and the Dominion will thus, in the course of a few years, become an important link in the shortest and straightest telegraphic line around the Globe.

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